

31st December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Covid-19 Update: Arrangements for the beginning of term

I hope that you and your families are enjoying a safe and restful holiday period.

Further to my recent letter, the Government has announced that the staggered return to school at the beginning of January will now take place over a longer time period for schools. This is both to reduce the risk of Covid-19 spreading further and also to ensure that every secondary school is fully prepared to carry out the mass testing of students when they return.

As a result of this announcement therefore, our spring term will begin as follows:

- **Year 11 and Year 13:** From 6th – 8th January, Year 11 and 13 students will work from home and access an online curriculum*. They will return to the Academy for face-to-face learning on Monday 11th January.
- **All other Secondary year groups:** Term will begin as previously announced on Wednesday 6th January. For Wednesday 6th – Friday 8th January, students will access an online curriculum* with work set on EPrise. For the week commencing 11th January, students will access a full curriculum online, with most of their lessons being taught live using Microsoft Teams. It is planned that they will return to school during the week of **18th January**. Further details that set out exactly when during that week your child must come into school will be sent to you in due course.

*Full details of the online curriculum for each year group can be accessed via EPrise.

The children of key workers and those who are classed as vulnerable can return to Frontline School on Wednesday 6th January. (Parents can indicate that they are key workers by using the link in the EPrise message sent by Karen Wright.) Pupils who are invited to attend Frontline School will be contacted on Monday 4th or Tuesday 5th January. If you are not contacted, your child CANNOT attend Frontline School.

Pupils who are eligible for free school meals will be sent vouchers in the same way as we did in the spring and summer terms.

These are obviously challenging times for the country with cases of Covid-19 rising both locally and nationally. Our priority at all times, however, is to do everything we can to ensure each student receives as full and normal a curriculum as possible, either in school or at home, so we can continue to minimise the disruption that the pandemic causes to their education.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support for your child in their education during these times. It remains vital that, despite the ongoing challenges, every student continues to follow their online curriculum in

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full and comes to school as and when they are required to do so. If however your child has either tested positive for Covid-19, is already self-isolating or is displaying any symptoms of the virus on the day, they are due to return to school, please do not send them to school but contact us for further information on what you need to do.

May I wish you a safe, happy and healthy New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Robinson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs R Robinson
Executive Principal